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CLAIMS:

5   What is claimed is:

1.   A method of managing a system, comprising:

determining a period for sending management

information requests to the system;

10   sending a management information request to the

system in accordance with the determined period; and

performing management of the system based on a

response received from the system, wherein the period for

sending the management information request is determined

15   based on an operating status of the system.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein determining a period

for sending management information requests includes

time-decaying the period if the operating status of the

20   system is determined to be normal.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein determining a period

for sending management information requests includes

increasing the period by a decay amount if the operating

25   status of the system is determined to be normal.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein determining a period

for sending management information requests includes

reducing the period by a boost amount if the operating

30   status of the system is determined to be other than

normal.

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5.   The method of claim 3, wherein the decay amount is variable.

6.   The method of claim 4, wherein the boost amount is

5   variable.

7.   The method of claim 1, wherein the operating status of the system is determined based on a value of a predicate function.

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8.   The method of claim 8, wherein the steps of determining, sending and performing are performed by a specialized management thin server or server appliance.

15   9.   An apparatus for managing a system, comprising:
       determination means for determining a period for
sending management information requests to the system;
       sending means for sending management information
requests to the system in accordance with the determined

20   period; and
       management means for performing management of the
system based on the responses received from the system,
wherein the period for sending the management information
requests is determined based on an operating status of

25   the system.

10.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the determination means determines a period for sending management information requests by periodically increasing the

30   period by a decay amount if the operating status of the system is determined to be normal.

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11.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the determination means determines a period for sending management information requests by periodically reducing the period by a boost amount if the operating status of the system
5   is determined to be other than normal.

12.   The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the decay amount is variable.

10   13.   The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the boost amount is variable.

14.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the operating status of the system is determined based on a value of a
15   predicate function.

15.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the apparatus is a management server appliance or thin server.

20   16.   A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing a system, comprising:
      first instructions for determining a period for sending management information requests to the system;
      second instructions for sending a management
25   information request to the system in accordance with the determined period; and
      third instructions for performing management of the system based on a response received from the system, wherein the period for sending the management information
30   request is determined based on an operating status of the system.

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17. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the first instructions for determining a period for sending management information requests includes instructions for time-decaying the period if the

5   operating status of the system is determined to be normal.

18. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the first instructions for determining a period for

10   sending management information requests includes instructions for periodically increasing the period by a decay amount if the operating status of the system is determined to be normal.

15   19. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the first instructions for determining a period for sending management information requests includes instructions for periodically reducing the period by a boost amount if the operating status of the system is

20   determined to be other than normal.

20. The computer program product of claim 18, wherein the decay amount is variable.

25   21. The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the boost amount is variable.

22. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the operating status of the system is determined based on

30   a value of a predicate function.

23. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein

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the system is one or more of a thin server and a server appliance.

24. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the computer program product is implemented in a management server appliance or thin server.